

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /080 W
-----301948Z 080744 /73

R 301000Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL TRIESTE
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO SECSTATE WASH DC 0649
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

S E C R E T TRIESTE 0138
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IT, YO, AU
SUBJ: SOME SUPPRISES DURING RIBICIC VISIT
REF: TRIESTE 0119

1. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED DURING
MEETING BETWEEN REGIONAL DC DELEGATION AND MIJA RIBICIC, PRESIDENT
OF THE SOCIALIST ALLIANCE OF SLOVENIA DURING LATTER'S VISIT TO
TRIESTE APRIL 21-22 (REFTEL):
A. OSIMI -- THE YUGOSLAVS FULLY UNDERSTAND ITALIAN DIFFI-
CULTIES IN THIS REGARD IN TRIESTE AND ARE CONTENT FOR THE TIME
BEING TO LET ITALY TAKE THE LEAD IN DEALING WITH THE ISSUE.

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THERE WERE NO PRESSURES APPLIED OR DEADLINES SET.
B. AMNESTY -- REPORTEDLY, THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IS EX-
PECTED TO DECLARE AN AMNESTY BEFORE THE HELSINKI ACCORDS MEETING
IN BELGRADE. ABOUT 350 OF APPROXIMATELY 500 POLITICAL PRISONERS
SUPPOSEDLY WILL BE RELEASED.
C. AUSTRIA AND BULGARIA -- THESE WERE DESCRIBED BY YUGOSLAV
SIDE AS QTE TWO THORNS UNQTE IN YUGOSLAVIA'S FLANKS. WHILE ITALIAN
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CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATES WERE ASKED WHETHER THEY MIGHT DO SOMETHING
TO HELP OUT WITH VIENNA, IT NEVER BECAME CLEAR EXACTLY WHAT WAS
BOTHERING THE YUGOSLAVS IN THIS REGARD. AS FOR BULGARIA, IT IS
STILL MOSCOW'S CATPAW IN YUGOSLAV EYES.
D. POST-TITO YUGOSLAVIA -- BY ALL REPORTS, RIBICIC AND
COMPANY WERE COMPLETELY RELAXED ABOUT THE SUCCESSION, NOTING THAT
PORT-TITO YUGOSLAVIA WAS ALREADY A REALITY. PREPARATIONS ARE NOW

IN FULL PROGRESS TO CELEBRATE TITO'S 85TH BIRTHDAY AND FORTY YEARS OF COMMUNISM IN YUGOSLAVIA.

E. TITO'S TRAVELS -- TITO REPORTEDLY PLANS TRAVEL TO MOSCOW AND PEKING EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE MEETING ON THE HELSINKI ACCORDS.

F. HUMAN RIGHTS -- US ADMINISTRATORS'S HEAVY EMPHASIS ON

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THIS ISSUE APPARENTLY WORRIES A BIT THE YUGOSLAVS WHO REPORTEDLY FEAR THAT SUCH A ISSUE COULD BE HARMFUL TO PROGRESS ON ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

2. LOCAL DC LEADERSHIP SEEMED QUITE PLEASED WITH THE MEETINGS AND THERE IS TALK OF ESTABLISHING INSTITUTIONAL EXCHANGES. DC LEADERS DID SAY THAT THEY WERE TAKEN ABACK BY YUGOSLAV COMPLAINS ABOUT AUSTRIA WHICH WERE ENTIRELY UNEXPECTED. APPARENTLY THESE COMPLAINTS WENT FAR BEYOND THE MINORITY QUESTION WITH THE YUGO-SLOAVS COMPLAINING ABOUT UNNEIGHBORLY AUSTRIAN BEHAVIOR ON A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES. THE DC LEADERS ALSO SAID THEY WERE SURPRISED BY THE TIMING OF THE AMNESTY WHICH COULD STIR THINGS UP WITH THE RUSSIANS. MOEN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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